development, labour administration, unorganized sector etc. The Government has initiated the process of tripartite consultations.

(c) to (e) The report was discussed at the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29th September, 2002. There is a continuing interaction with the social partners to bring about a workable consensus for implementation of the recommendations of Commission's report. However, given the procedure involved, it may be difficult to specify the time limit.

Unemployment in Private Sector Industries

294. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers/employees who have been rendered jobless due to closure of over three lakh industries, downsizing and retrenchments in public sector and private sector, separately;

(b) whether the sickness in industries in private sector is much more higher than public sector, if so, the logic behind the move for privatization of public sector; and

(c) what concrete move his Ministry has taken to save employment of workers and employees in private sector industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) As per information collected by Labour Bureau for the establishments covered under the I.D. Act, the number of persons affected due to retrenchment, closure and lay off during the period 1991 to 2001 was of the order of 0.32 lakh, 1.76 lakh & 6.33 lakh respectively. Since these data are collected on a voluntary basis the coverage may not be complete, 3.69 lakh employees of Central PSUs have gone on Voluntary Retirement during the perlod from october, 1988 to 31.3.2001.

All decisions of the Government relating to disinvestments do not automatically have a direct impact on the jobs of the employees of the concerned Public Sector company. When the decision involves a strategic sale with the transfer of management and control of the company, the issues relating to employees assume importance and the concerns are appropriately addressed in the terms and conditions of sale.